

TS-194746

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1 April 1966

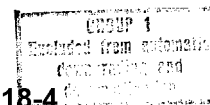
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: SHRIKE

1. The SHRIKE is an air-to-ground weapon developed by the U.S. Navy. The guidance consists of an inertial ballistic phase augmented, either pre-release or in flight, with acquisition by a radar sensor of a ground emitter followed by passive homing on that signal. The vehicle is 8" in diameter, 120" long, weighs 392 lbs., and carries a 150 lb. warhead consisting of about 60 lbs. of HE and a fragmenting case producing some 22,000 pellets, each 3/16th of an inch size. Release of the weapon can be in a toss maneuver, a dive, or in level flight. Maximum range, depending on mode and altitude of release, varies from 10 to about 25 NM. For best results, the location of the target should be known to about 2 NM before attack. The use of an initial aiming point of known relationship to the target some 10-15 NM short is recommended.

2. The SHRIKE currently has both an S-band (~3000 mc) and a C-band (~5000 mc) capability. Future versions are planned to cover X-band (~9000 mc), L-band (~1 mc), and VHF (~.2 mc). About 80% of the production so far is with S-band heads. The future versions are planned to be available in one to two years. About 60 pilot line quality SHRIKE's were introduced into the fleet starting in the Fall of 1965. Currently, there are some 120 production line quality SHRIKE's deployed to the West Pacific area. Auxiliary equipment availability presently restricts the mode of delivery to low altitude toss and medium altitude (25,000 ft.) dive with high altitude level or toss delivery capability becoming available

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about Fall 1966. This latter delivery tactic furnishes maximum delivery range. The SHRIKE is deliverable from the A-4 and the A-6 aircrafts, both being currently used in VN. About 60% of the Navy attack aircraft in VN are A-4's, of which over half currently have a SHRIKE-carrying capability. Both the numbers of SHRIKE capable aircraft and their individual capability are being improved as the operational phase progresses.

3. In addition to the extensive ZI testing, both by the Navy and the Air Force who are receiving SHRIKE's for carriage in F-105's and F-4's, the Navy has expended some 33 SHRIKE's in NVN. Estimates of the effectiveness of these 33 are that 10 radars were hit. These estimates depend on evidence, which in some cases is largely inferential, such as the radar going off the air at the time of missile impact, rather than hard damage assessment intelligence. One of the major objectives related to the use of SHRIKE has to do with the learning and development of optimum procedures and tactics for application to the peculiar environment of NVN. As more experience is gained, particularly in the pre-strike target selection, identification and location phases, it may be anticipated that improvements will occur.



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